

Who Wants to be a Torturer? (was Quotehunt)

The Urth list — 3 messages, 3 voices, 06 Jul 2000

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William Ansley — 06 Jul 2000, 23:43

Is that your final answer? Sorry. Ooooh, you were so close!

The correct answer is:

"In the final reckoning there is only love, only that divinity. That we are capable only of being what we are remains our unforgivable sin."

But you still get some lovely parting gifts. <g>

William Ansley

At 2:06 PM -0400 7/5/00, Robert King wrote:

I think it's at the very end of Claw, in the scene where Jolenta dies.

As I recall, it goes something like: "In the end there is only love, only that divinity. That we are capable of being only what we are remains our unforgivable sin."

Believe it or not, I used the line when I had to give my speech as the valedictorian in high school. I figured Severian was a cooler reference than Polonius ("to thine own self be true," yadda yadda yadda). Damned if I can remember what context I placed it in, though.

-- Bob

On Wed, 5 Jul 2000, Alex David Groce wrote:

Ok, I'm trying to find where in New Sun Severian says something roughly like "Our one unforgivable sin is that we remain capable only of being > what we are." I can't find it anywhere, and I'm not sure I have the phrasing correct. Anyone remember this?

Alex David Groce — 07 Jul 2000, 13:55 · follows William Ansley

Thanks, Robert and William!

A side note: I "stole" (with attributions I'm sure no one paid any attention to) much of my high school graduation speech from LITTLE, BIG and Eliot's "Little Gidding."

"And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." John 8:32

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Charles Dye — 08 Jul 2000, 10:31 · follows Alex David Groce

William Ansley <[wansley at warwick.net](mailto:wansley@warwick.net)> writes:

The correct answer is:

"In the final reckoning there is only love, only that divinity. That we are capable only of being what we are remains our unforgivable sin."

Oddly enough, that second sentence appears twice in `_Claw_`: near the end of the first chapter, and near the end of the last. Vodalus and Jolenta -- what's the connection?

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